

Amendments To the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown.

1.-18. (cancelled)

19. (currently amended) An apparatus having embedded computer functions for controlling configured to receive files and updates thereto through a communication network, with the files assembled in a file directory structure, the apparatus being responsive to control operation of a device according to content in one or more of the files stored in a storage thereon, the apparatus including storage for storing the file directory structure, the file directory structure including, the apparatus comprising:

a communication connection for receiving the one or more files;

wherein at least one file stored on the apparatus includes a portrayed file directory structure for addressing contents of the file that operates as a file directory structure for the apparatus without requiring a separate local file directory structure on the apparatus, wherein the portrayed file directory structure comprises:

a first hierarchy level and a second hierarchy level designed as a subordinate level of the first hierarchy level; a first file directory situated on the first hierarchy level; a second file directory situated on the second hierarchy level; and a first file situated on the first or the second hierarchy level or on a subordinate hierarchy level, wherein the file directory structure is held in a second file, wherein each file directory and each file of the file directory structure is listed consecutively in the second file, wherein each file directory and each file of the file directory structure is identified by at least one characteristic start symbols and/or at least one characteristic end symbols to represent hierarchy levels, wherein the symbols comprise representations of one or more directories, representations of one or more corresponding subdirectories nested therein, and representations of one or more files nested in one or more directories or subdirectories, in a manner representative of a physical hierarchical file directory structure, and wherein the contents of each file directory and each file in the portrayed file directory structure are stored in each case between the respective characteristic symbols for each file, thereby allowing directories, subdirectories, and files to be directly addressable by means of the respective characteristic symbols,

said portrayed file directory structure enabling the apparatus to operate as a web server with hierarchical addressing, thereby enabling remote access to control or change operation of the device.

20. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 19, wherein an Internet-compatible language is used for describing the portrayed file directory structure.

21. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 19, wherein the second-at least one file, in which the portrayed file directory structure is stored, is an XML file and the XML language is used for the purpose of describing the portrayed file directory structure description.

22. (cancelled).

23. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 19, wherein a new line is used both for each characteristic start symbol and for each characteristic end symbol in the second file.

24. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 19, wherein the designation of the relevant file directory or of the relevant file is used as a characteristic start symbol, and the designation of the relevant file directory or of the relevant file is used as a characteristic end symbol and a predetermined character is added as a prefix.

25. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 19, wherein the second-at least one file includes further sections having other contents, said further sections being identified or separated in each case by at least one characteristic start symbol and at least one characteristic end symbol.

26. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 25, wherein configuration data is stored in at least one of the further sections of the second file.

27. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 25, wherein result codes and/or error codes are stored in at least one of the further sections of the second file.

28. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 19, wherein the apparatus comprises a mechanism for receiving and/or storing the second-at least one file via a communication network.

29. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 28, wherein the communication network is the Internet and/or an Intranet and/or a radio connection.

30. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 26, wherein a configuration of the apparatus, using the configuration data ~~which is present in the second file~~, can be carried out automatically after the ~~second-at least one~~ file has been loaded onto the apparatus.

31. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 19, wherein the apparatus is coupled to a communication network ~~taken from the group consisting of an intranet, the internet and a radio-connected network and the device is a meter~~ content of one or more of the files in the portrayed file directory structure is capable of being remotely addressed using a full Uniform Resource Language URL address in accordance with the file's location in the portrayed file directory structure and being displayed as a webpage on a remote device.

32. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 19, wherein an update of the ~~portrayed file directory structure can be carried out by~~ comprises overwriting an original file version of the ~~second-at least one~~ file with a new file version.

33. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 26, wherein an update of the configuration data ~~can be carried out by~~ comprises overwriting an original file version of the ~~second-at least one~~ file with a new file version.

34. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 26, wherein after the ~~second-at least one~~ file has been updated, a previously set configuration data of the apparatus onto which the original file version of the ~~second-at least one~~ file was loaded, ~~can be~~ is automatically checked and adapted.

35. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 19, wherein the apparatus is an embedded device.

36. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 19, wherein the apparatus is an automation device.

37. (previously presented) An automation system having at least one apparatus as claimed in Claim 19.

38. (canceled)